

REMARKS

Claims 32-40, 42-52, 54-57, 59, 60, and 62-67 are presented for consideration by the Examiner. In the Office Action mailed May 12, 2004, claims 42, 43 and 65-67 were allowed. Claims 47, 53, 57, 58, 60, 61, 63, and 64 were indicated as being allowable if rewritten in independent form. Claims 32-40, 44-46, 48-52, 54-56, 59, and 62 were rejected.

In the amendments above, allowable claims 47, 57, and 64 have been re-written in independent form and are therefore believed to be in condition for allowance. Also, the subject matter of allowable claim 53 has been incorporated into independent claim 32. Accordingly, claim 32 is believed to be allowable. Dependent claims 33-36, 45, 46, 48-52, and 54-57 depend from claim 32 or a claim depending from claim 32 and are therefore also believed to be allowable. Similarly, the subject matter of allowable claim 58 has been incorporated into independent claim 37. Accordingly, claim 37 and dependent claims 38, 59, and 60 are believed to be in condition for allowance. Also, the subject matter of allowable claim 61 has been incorporated into independent claim 39, such that claim 39 and dependent claims 40, 62 and 63 are believed to be in condition for allowance. Claims 41, 53, 58, 61, 68, and 69 have been canceled. Accordingly, all the remaining claims, including claims 32-40, 42-52, 54-57, 59, 60, and 62-67 are believed to be in condition for allowance.

The amendments made herein are without prejudice to any future submission of the original claims in a subsequent application.

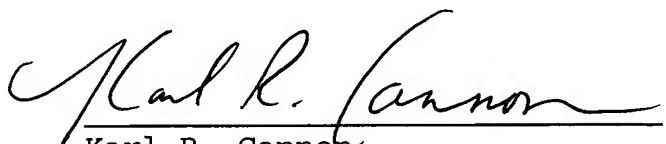
CONCLUSION AND AUTHORIZATION OF DEPOSIT ACCOUNT

In view of the foregoing, applicants believe that claims 32-40, 42-52, 54-57, 59, 60, and 62-67 are all allowable and the same is respectfully requested. If any impediment to the allowance of these claims remains after entry of this Response C With Amendment, and such impediment could be alleviated during a telephone interview, the Examiner is invited to initiate the same.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fee or to credit any overpayment in connection with this Response to Deposit Account No. 50-0836.

DATED this 12 day of August, 2004.

Respectfully submitted,



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